Monroe County, FL
Islamorada, Village of Islands

Press Release

For Immediate Release
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Sea Level Rise Community Workshop Series for Key Largo and Islamorada Communities

First Workshop: October 7th Islamorada & October 9th Key Largo

Participate in Unique Community Workshops for Residents and Business Owners to Discuss Sea Level Rise Impacts and Solutions

Monroe County & Village of Islamorada, Florida- Monroe County and Islamorada have been working throughout the summer modeling the effects from flooding from sea level rise that are projected to occur under various scenarios. Residents and business owners are invited to attend the first of a series of 3 public workshops, one addressing Key Largo and a separate series addressing Islamorada, to learn in detail how sea level rise is anticipated to impact Key Largo and Islamorada residents and business owners in the future. The workshops will be designed to answer questions such as:

- Are you concerned about how storms and rising sea levels might further impact our community in the future?
- How much damage can we expect in the future if we do nothing?
- What can we do to adapt?
- What are the costs and benefits (such as avoided damages) of various adaptation actions we might undertake in preparation?

In the workshops, we will use 3D graphics and visualizations, stakeholder-driven input and cost-benefit analysis for the types of adaptation actions that might be effective in each community.

Workshop #1 Sea Level Rise Risks: In the first workshop, discussion will be focused on the risks of sea level rise and the types of economic and flooding impacts that are anticipated in the future. These scenarios will be presented by a project team, covering many streets and neighborhoods. The workshop will also include a panel of local community leaders. Mayor Sylvia Murphy will join the panel at the Key Largo workshop and Mayor Ted Blackburn will join the Islamorada workshop panel. The panel representatives will provide a local context for impacts and potential solutions to address the effects of sea level rise on roads and other areas.

Islamorada Workshop:
Tuesday, October 7, 5:30 pm-8:30 pm
Founders Park Community Center
87000 Overseas Highway
Islamorada, FL

Key Largo Workshop
Thursday, October 9, 5:30 pm-8:30 pm
Murray Nelson Government Center
102050 Overseas Highway
Key Largo, FL

Workshop #2 How to Prepare: The second workshop will be concentrated on discussion of "How to Prepare". The results of the sea level rise vulnerability assessment specific to the community will be presented, with predicted dollar damages to buildings, based on the input received during Workshop #1. We will then discuss possible adaptation strategies, such as raising building elevations or relocating facilities based on the discussion of workshop participants.

Islamorada Workshop:
Monday, November 10, 5:30 pm-8:30 pm
Founders Park Community Center
87000 Overseas Highway
Islamorada, FL

Key Largo Workshop
Wednesday, November 5, 5:30 pm-8:30 pm
Murray Nelson Government Center
102050 Overseas Highway
Key Largo, FL

Workshop #3 Implementing Strategies: The third workshop will address the pros and cons of the strategies chosen in the previous workshop and how well those strategies are predicted to protect your community. Implementing the right strategies should result in less damage over time. A cost-benefit analysis of the strategies will be discussed.

Islamorada Workshop:
Wednesday, December 10, 5:30 pm-8:30 pm
Founders Park Community Center
87000 Overseas Highway
Islamorada, FL

Key Largo Workshop
Tuesday, December 9, 5:30 pm-8:30 pm
Murray Nelson Government Center
102050 Overseas Highway
Key Largo, FL

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